

County of Greenville

221385

"Striving for Excellence"

Judy Gillstreapp District 26

January 5, 2010



Executive Director
The Public Service Commission
PO Drawer 11649
Columbia, SC 29211

Re:

United Utilities Co., Inc.

Request for rate increase for sewer service

Docket No. 2009-479-WS

Dear Sir/Madam:

I represent the residents of Valley Brook/Pine Shadow Subdivisions (Moonville Community of Piedmont, SC). Their sewer service is handled through United Utilities Co., Inc.

It has been brought to my attention that United Utilities Co., Inc. has applied for a rate increase from \$48.24 per month to \$73.89 per month which represents a 53.17% or \$25.65 increase per month per household.

Some of the residents of these subdivisions fall in the moderate to low income bracket. A 53.17% increase in sewer charges would be detrimental to them. The property owners in this area have worked diligently to enhance and improve their communities and have done a commendable job with their efforts. With the slow economy and wide-spread unemployment, I believe some property owners will not be able to pay their bills if another \$25.65 is added each month to their budgets. We might see another decline in the neighborhood.

I ask you to carefully look at this request. Surely there is an alternative to approving the request.

SinCerely,

Lly S. Gilstrap

Elstry